REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1 and 3-14 are pending in the application, with claim 1 being independent. Claim 1 has been amended and claim 14 has been added. Support for claim amendments and addition can be found in the original disclosure at least at pages 15 and 30, respectively.

Claim Rejections under §103(a)

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3-5, 7-8 and 12-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,966,121 (Hubbell) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,611,812 (Hurtado). Claims 6 and 9-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Hubbell in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,933,394 (Kim). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1, as amended, recites an apparatus comprising:

- memory; and
- logic operatively coupled to the memory and operatively configurable to access multimedia content from a medium, the logic providing a multimedia navigator program, a control application programming interface (API) and an information API, the control and information APIs being configured to respond to flags that selectively determine if at least one operation will be conducted, the operation being selected from a group of operations that includes a player-navigator synchronization operation, a selective interactive user operation, and a read/write register operation, the player-navigator synchronization operation comprising:
- causing a multimedia player application to output a request command to the navigator program; and

- causing the multimedia navigator program to subsequently return to the player application (i) an event identifier notifying the multimedia player application when the requested command is completed and (ii) a status result indicating whether the requested command succeeded or failed, ***such that the multimedia player application is able to track the event identifier to the requested command output by the player application facilitating multiple instance tracking.***

The Office argues that the subject matter of claim 1 is obvious over Hubbell in view of Hurtado. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejection and in the interests of expediting allowance of the application, independent claim 1 is amended, as discussed during the interview, to recite that ***the multimedia player application is able to track the event identifier to the requested command output by the player application facilitating multiple instance tracking.***

Hubbell is directed to a hypervideo editing system including a wordprocessing system and a separate video playback system. Hubbell describes that an author of a hypervideo application identifies particular frames of the video displayed by the video playback system and creates a mark video file that defines the type and functional characteristics of various hypervideo controls, marks, and actions using the wordprocessing system. (Col. 3, lines 11-16.)

Hubbell defines the terms "mark" and "mark video file" as follows:

> A "mark" is a generic term within the context of a hypervideo application or document that defines an association between a "place" or frame of a video segment and a particular hypervideo action. In general, a hypervideo application is developed to include a

> number of marks, some of which are defined as hypervideo controls, actions, and functions, for example.
>
> A "mark video file" is a data file containing information that defines the type and functionality of hypervideo controls, marks, actions, or functions. A mark video file typically contains a number of "mark files" that define a corresponding number of individual hypervideo control, marks, actions, or functions.
>
> Col. 5, lines 39-54.

In addition, Hubbell discloses "hypervideo controls that may be defined to exhibit time-dependent transition characteristics that visually convey the current availability and impending unavailability of the user-actuatable controls during predefined portions of a multimedia presentation." (Col. 4, lines 46-50.)

The Office Action appears to suggest that the "marks" of Hubbell correspond to the claimed event identifier and status result. However, during the interview, the Examiner tentatively conceded that Hubbell contains only one mark, either the event identifier or the status result. Therefore, Hubbell fails to disclose or suggest "***causing the multimedia navigator program to subsequently return to the player application (i) an event identifier notifying the multimedia player application when the requested command is completed and (ii) a status result indicating whether the requested command succeeded or failed***" as presently recited in independent claim 1. Further, Hubbell fails to disclose or suggest "***that the multimedia player application is able to track the event identifier to the***

requested command output by the player application facilitating multiple instance tracking," also presently recited in independent claim 1.

The Office Action appears to rely on Hurtado for the claimed status result. Hurtado is directed to a method to deliver encrypted digital content to an end user system for playing the content. (Col. 5, lines 59-61).

In addition, Hurtado discloses that licensing authorization and control are implemented through the use of a Clearinghouse(s) entity and Secure Container (SC) technology. The Clearinghouse(s) provides licensing authorization by enabling intermediate or End-User(s) to unlock content after verification of a successful completion of a licensing transaction. Secure Containers are used to distribute encrypted content and information among the system components. A SC is a cryptographic carrier of information or content that uses encryption, digital signatures, and digital certificates to provide protection against unauthorized interception or modification of electronic information and content. (Col. 10, 1-12).

However, Hurtado has not been shown to remedy the deficiencies in Hubbell noted above with respect to claim 1. Specifically, Hurtado fails to disclose or suggest "***causing the multimedia navigator program to subsequently return to the player application (i) an event identifier notifying the multimedia player application when the requested command is completed and (ii) a status result indicating whether the requested command succeeded or failed, such that the multimedia player application is able to track the event identifier to the***

requested command output by the player application facilitating multiple instance tracking," as is presently recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, independent claim 1 is believed to be allowable over Hubbell and Hurtado whether taken alone or in combination (assuming for the sake of argument that the documents can even be combined).

Dependent claims 3-5, 7-8 and 12-13 depend from independent claim 1 and are allowable by virtue of their dependency from allowable claim 1, as well as for the additional features that each recites.

Claims 6 and 9-11 were rejected as being obvious over Hubbell and Hurtado, in further view of Kim.

Claims 6 and 9-11 depend from claim 1 and therefore include all the features of that base claim. As discussed above, Hubbell and Hurtado lack features of independent claim 1.

Kim was cited for its alleged teaching of a DVD having DVD formatted content and a navigator, which enables extraction of cell information and precise playback information. However, Kim fails to remedy the deficiencies in Hubbell and Hurtado noted above with respect to claim 1.

Accordingly, claims 6 and 9-11 are allowable over the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination (assuming for the sake or argument that the documents can even be combined).

New claim 14 depends from independent claim 1 and is allowable by virtue of this dependency, as well as for the additional features that it recites. For example, in addition to the "event identifier" and "status result" of claim 1, claim 14 also recites that "the player-navigator synchronization operation further comprising generating a bookmark to encode and store the current state of the multimedia playback". None of the cited references discloses this additional feature. Accordingly, claim 14 is allowable for at least this additional reason.

Conclusion

All of the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant requests a Notice of Allowability be issued forthwith. If the Office's next anticipated action is to be anything other than issuance of a Notice of Allowability, **Applicant respectfully requests a call to discuss any remaining issues**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: July 30, 2007

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